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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0332  
INFO RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 4522

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SENSITIVE  
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OTRA AMGT KNNP PREL MNUC KN CH JA  
SUBJECT: KOREA COUNTRY CLEARANCE GRANTED FOR EAP/K SUNG KIM AND  
CHUCK LUTES

REF: SECSTATE 61016

¶1. (U) Embassy Seoul welcomes and grants country clearance for the official June 9-12, 2008 visit of Sung Kim, Director of the Office of Korean Affairs and Chuck Lutes, NSC Director for Counter-Proliferation. The purpose of the visit is to travel to Seoul en route to Pyongyang for consultations related to the Six-Party Talks.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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¶2. (U) Control officer for the visit is Political Officer Donny Yoo.

Office telephone: (82)(2) 397-4154  
Embassy operator (82)(2) 397-4114 then press "0"  
Cell phone: (82)(11) 298-4136  
Fax number: (82)(2) 733-4791  
Unclassified email: YooDH@state.gov  
Classified email: YooDH@state.sgov.gov

LODGING

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¶3. (U) Embassy has reserved two rooms at the Lotte Hotel for June 9, and June 11, 2008 at per diem rates. The reservation confirmation number is 10122104 for all guests/for all nights. Hotel is located at 1 Sogong-dong Jung-gu, Seoul Korea 100-070, Seoul; hotel phone number is 82-2-771-1000; fax number: 82-2-752-3758. Cancellation policy is 24 hours prior to arrival to avoid one-night penalty.

TRANSPORTATION

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¶4. (U) All official travelers must possess a Korean visa to enter the country. Travelers may contact the nearest Korean Consulate/Embassy to obtain a visa. The delegation will be met at the airport by a motor pool car and driver.

THREAT ASSESSMENT

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¶5. (U) Americans in Seoul are subject to worldwide threat from international terrorists, although we have no information to suggest any specific terrorists threats directed at Americans here. Political demonstrations occur frequently in Seoul, and are occasionally anti-American. Americans can minimize personal risk by staying away from demonstrations and by avoiding confrontation or altercations with protestors. While relatively infrequent by U.S. standards, street crime does occur. Most reported crimes involve pick-pocketing in tourist areas and are predominantly non-violent in nature. The security precautions a person would take in any large city are appropriate throughout South Korea.

¶6. (SBU) As a matter of prudence, you must assume that all rooms, telephones, cellular phones, and fax machines can be monitored. You

should not discuss sensitive or classified information in uncontrolled areas. Official travelers should ensure that hard-copy and electronic sensitive information is not left in hotel rooms. Computers, including laptops and Personal Digital Assistants, cannot be brought into the Embassy except with prior permission from the RSO office.

17. (U) Police are considered capable and well trained. Seoul metropolitan authorities staff English-speaking personnel 24 hours daily to handle local emergencies. Telephone numbers are as follows: 112 police emergency, 119 fire and ambulance.

VERSHBOW